

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The disclosed invention relates to sterol and/or stanol esters of ethercarboxylic acids corresponding to general formula (I):  $R(OAlk)_nOCH_2COOH$ , in which R is a  $C_{1-50}$  alkyl, alkenyl and/or alkylphenyl group derived from an alcohol, OAlk stands for ring-opened ethylene oxide, propylene oxide and/or butylene oxide units and n is a number of 0 to 100, and to a process for making said sterols and stanols. The inventive sterols and stanols have a number of uses, including as steroid precursors, as emulsifiers and as a hypocholesterolaemic active component of foods.